

**CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT  
MINUTES**

November 13, 2002

Members Present

Craig Anderson, Chair  
Scott Carroll  
Bob Lowry  
Janon Rogers  
Lita Verts  
Stewart Wershow, Councilor

Staff

Steve Rogers, Public Works  
Bernadette Barrett, Public Works

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Agenda Item	Informa- tion Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations/Action
Minutes - October 9, 2002			Accepted as written
Tri-County Senior/Disabled Transportation Project		X	
Election Results - Impact	X		
Schedule/Map Redesign Project		X	
January 2003 Meeting Date			Meeting date changed to January 15, 2003
Peak Service Revision - January 2003	X		
Ridership Report	X		
Intermodal Mall	X		
Metropolitan Planning Organization - Update	X		
Holiday Trolley	X		
Benton County Fair	X		
Fall Festival	X		
Cameras on Board One CTS Bus	X		

**CONTENT OF DISCUSSION**

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - October 9, 2002**

The minutes were accepted as presented.

**II. TRI-COUNTY SENIOR/DISABLED TRANSPORTATION PROJECT UPDATE**

The final report has been delayed; therefore, the project update has been held over until the December 2002 CACOT meeting. It was noted that there is a public meeting regarding the results of the report on November 21, 10 a.m., in the Benton County Plaza meeting room.

### **III. ELECTION RESULTS - IMPACT**

Public Works Director Rogers noted that the City's operating levy failed at the November 5 election. The Budget Commission met to discuss the results. He noted four items that were discussed: 1) staff is encouraged to do a better job of telling citizens what we do well; 2) there will be no levy in 2003; 3) there will be cuts, including additional cuts during the current 2002-03 budget year; and 4) the long list of priority cuts will be used to make the cuts in 2003-04.

The Budget Commission will meet again in January. Finance staff will prepare a refined budget projection at that time based upon the revised 2002-03 budget. There may be some revisions of the prioritized list based upon staff input regarding changes that have occurred since the list was developed. Mr. Rogers reminded the Commission of the transit service cuts that are on the list, ranging from a 10-percent cut to a 25-percent cut.

There was discussion regarding the cost of deferring of building and street maintenance. The impact to transit was also discussed, noting that transit cuts result in lost ridership that may never be regained or will take a long time to regain. Reduced ridership also impacts federal funding, since part of the funding formula is based upon ridership. It was noted that the Budget Commission may recommend going to the voters in 2004 or 2006 with a more specific levy.

### **IV. SCHEDULE/MAP REDESIGN PROJECT**

Staff had distributed copies of sample schedules/maps at the October CACOT meeting and asked for input regarding the elements that members would like to see in the new format. In addition to those discussed at the October meeting, other items suggested were: a matrix of time showing stops and routes to reach popular destinations, a possible map on the cover, drop the name of the service route A and B and change to be consistent with the numbered routes, and include information helpful to CTS customers. Staff will draft a sample copy for the next CACOT meeting.

### **V. JANUARY 2003 CACOT MEETING**

Staff requested that the regularly scheduled January 2003

meeting be rescheduled for January 15 (the third Wednesday of the month). Transit staff will be attending a Federal Transit Administration (FTA) training for new urban transit systems during the second week of January. Updated budget information may also be available by that date.

## **VI. PEAK SERVICE REVISION - Effective Date**

The peak service revision will be effective with the beginning of 2003. The route and timing are still being reviewed by bus operators; and a new schedule/map will need to be developed, printed, and distributed.

## **VII. INFORMATION SHARING**

### **A. Ridership Reports (fixed, paratransit, Philomath)**

The ridership reports were presented. CTS provided 51,648 rides in October 2002. This is lower than last year's October record monthly ridership of 54,252. It was speculated that the decrease is related to the revised start and end times at Corvallis High School and Cheldelin Middle School.

The Philomath ridership for October was 1,533, compared to last year's October ridership of 1,372. This was the highest monthly ridership for the Philomath Connection since service started in April 2000.

The Dial-A-Bus report was not available. It was noted that Dial-A-Bus is working on installing the new scheduling and dispatching software and staff training. Future automated reports should improve timing and accuracy of the reports.

### **B. Intermodal Mall - Status Report**

The intermodal mall project is progressing. A new element--truncated domes--has been added to improve accessibility for visually impaired persons. Transit staff is beginning work to seek a concessionaire for the commercial portion of the building. Several people have already expressed interest.

### **C. Metropolitan Planning Organization**

Staff reported that the Coordinating Committee for formation of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is continuing to meet to make key decisions regarding the organization and staffing. The Coordinating Committee includes elected and staff representatives from the cities of Adair Village, Philomath, and Corvallis, and Benton County, as well as representatives from the Oregon Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.

The Coordinating Committee is working on a draft intergovernmental agreement. The goal is to have the MPO designated by the current governor.

#### **D. Holiday Trolley 2002**

Staff reported that they are continuing to seek donations for operation of this year's holiday trolley. Last year Rite Aid did not contribute and, so far, no 9<sup>th</sup> Street business has responded to the request for support. Those that have committed to this year's service are: the Downtown Corvallis Association, Timberhill Merchants Association, Albertsons Shopping Center owner, and the OSU Bookstore.

#### **E. Benton County Fair**

Copies of the Benton County Fair ridership were distributed. The free trolley service provided 3,568 rides, compared to 2001 numbers of 3,214. This year Evanite contributed \$2,000 toward the costs of the free shuttle. The remaining costs are shared between Benton County and the City of Corvallis.

#### **F. Fall Festival**

The Fall Festival ridership results were distributed. This year's expanded transit service provided 2,044 rides, compared to 2,115 for 2001. Sunday ridership is approximately half of Saturday's ridership. Efforts will be made in 2003 to encourage Sunday use of transit. This will include providing information to the various churches that are in the vicinity of Central Park and are affected by the event.

#### **G. Cameras On Board CTS Bus**

GE Interlogix (Interlogix), a Corvallis-based subsidiary of General Electric, has entered into a partnership with the

City to provide security cameras on one of the CTS buses at no cost. In exchange for the camera system, Interlogix will be able to test new products on a working bus without having to travel outside the Corvallis area. Interlogix provides on-board security systems to transit systems throughout the United States, including Los Angeles, Seattle, and Chicago.

The six-camera system provides interior and exterior views of the bus. The video and audio transmissions are recorded on the bus and then can be viewed on a computer system provided by Interlogix. Interlogix has provided training on the system to CTS staff and Laidlaw trainers and mechanic. There is no disruption to CTS service since any changes occur while the bus is out of service.

The benefits to CTS are many. CTS staff can use the recorded information for customer monitoring to deter vandalism, verify accident responsibility, and monitor contractor compliance. Laidlaw staff can use the information for training purposes.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

### Future Meetings:

Wednesday, **January 15**, 8:00 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D

Wednesday, February 12, 8:00 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D

Wednesday, March 12, 8:00 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D